



Identified Problem

Existing US 220 (Future I-73) is projected to be over capacity by 2035 from US 311 to NC 68. The primary purpose of improving US 220 (Future I-73) is to relieve congestion on the existing facility such that a minimum of Level of Service (LOS) D can be achieved.

Justification of Need

US 220 is a major north-south corridor in Rockingham County, connecting the Madison, Mayodan, and Stoneville, with rural areas in the western half of the county. The facility is a vital artery in moving people and goods through North Carolina, connecting two major urban areas, Martinsville, Virginia and Greensboro, and ultimately connecting Southwest Virginia to Central North Carolina.

US 220 is currently a 4-lane freeway from Virginia to US 311 and a 4-lane expressway from US 311 to NC 68. US 220 is ultimately envisioned to be an Interstate and designated as Interstate 73, based on the SHC Vision Plan. It is part of the statewide tier of the NCMIN.

By 2035, the facility is projected to be over capacity from the US 311 south to Guilford County based on a LOS D. Traffic from US 311 south to NC 68 is projected to increase from 30,000 vpd in 2009 to 50,500 vpd in 2035, compared to a capacity of 36,000 vpd. From US 311 north to Virginia, the recommended designation of this route to Interstate 73 will require US 220 to be upgraded to Interstate standards.